

Message Text

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44

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 L-03 EB-07 COME-00

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L/EUR-KSGUDGEON

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----- 123928

R 131352Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

INFO AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EMIN, EINV, CA

SUBJECT: PRESS INQUIRY ABOUT POTASH

REF: OTTAWA 2750

1. WASHINGTON AGENCIES GENERALLY AGREE WITH EMBASSY'S
PROPOSED LINE TO BE TAKEN WITH SASKATCHEWAN CORRESPONDENT
PER REFTEL. SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING CHANGES: (LETTERS IN
SUB-PARAGRAPHS BELOW COINCIDE WITH LETTERS IN QUESTIONS IN
REFTEL.)

A) -- REPLACE "ABOUT 75 PERCENT" WITH "OVER HALF OF".

-- REPLACE "WHO CONTRIBUTES SO MUCH" WITH "WHOSE EFFORTS
WERE ESSENTIAL". - -

--CHANGE SECOND PARA TO: "MORE BROADLY, IN AN INTER-
DEPENDENT WORLD THE U.S. HAS A VITAL INTEREST IN A STRONG
AND PROSPEROUS CANADA, AND WE BELIEVE THAT FREE ACCESS TO
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INVESTMENT CAPITAL IS ESSENTIAL TO THE MAINTENANCE OF

STRENGTH AND PROSPERITY."

B) -- REPLACE FIRST SENTENCE OF ANSWER WITH "WE HAVE NO
OBJECTION TO FREELY NEGOTIATED PURCHASES OF U.S.-OWNED
ASSETS BY ANYONE, PROVIDED THAT SALES ARE REALLY FREELY

NEGOTIATED AT A FAIR PRICE AND NOT MERELY ACQUIESCED IN
BECAUSE THE ALTERNATIVE IS EXPROPRIATION."

C) -- CHANGE ANSWER TO READ "THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS MADE
ITS CONCERNS KNOWN THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, AND WE
HOPE THAT THESE CONCERNS WILL BE RECOGNIZED. IT WOULD
BE PREMATURE TO TALK ABOUT THE USG RESPONSE SHOULD ANY
EXPROPRIATION NOT MEET INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS".

E) -- CHANGE ANSWER TO READ "SASKATCHEWAN'S POTASH POLICY
HAS ATTRACTED WIDESPREAD ATTENTION IN THE U.S. AS AN
EXAMPLE OF A CANADIAN POLICY THAT HAS HAD OR MAY HAVE AN
ADVERSE IMPACT ON U.S. INTERESTS".

G) -- "THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN NO ACTION DIRECTED
AT PARTICIPATION BY AMERICAN-OWNED FIRMS IN CANPOTEX". KISSINGER

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